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RESPONSES TO ED MEEK'S FACEBOOK POST



PAGE 2

Read our staff editorial on why the
Meek School name must change.

PAGE 3

Read a letter to the editor from
Mahoghany Jordan, a student at the
university and one of the women
singled out by Meek.

Read reactions from alumni of the
school of journalism and The Daily
Mississippi.

CONFRONTING PREJUDICE

Students, faculty and alumni met in Nutt Auditorium last night to discuss Ed Meek's comments and where we go from here.



PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

Black Student Union President Jarvis Benson and senior Mahoghany Jordan embrace after she spoke out during the open forum on Thursday night at Nutt Auditorium. Jordan was one of the women pictured in Ed Meek's controversial Facebook post.

BLAKE ALSUP
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Hundreds of students and members of the Ole Miss community gathered in the David H. Nutt Auditorium on Thursday night for a school-wide forum regarding the offensive comments made by Ed Meek.

Senior biology major Ki'yona Crawford and senior general studies major Mahoghany Jordan, the two women

pictured in Meek's post, were among the many students who took to the microphone to address the crowd.

Meek is a donor and former professor who served as the university's assistant vice chancellor for public relations and marketing for 37 years, beginning in 1964. The university's School of Journalism and New Media bears his name.

A wide range of people — including administrators,

student leaders and the women pictured in Meek's post — took the microphone and spoke about Meek's comments throughout the two-part forum.

Toward the end of the forum, Crawford and Jordan came to front of the auditorium and sat on the stage to speak. They were the forum's only student participants to speak from the stage.

Jordan, who penned a guest column for the DM on

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Mullins, Tran elected Mr. and Miss Ole Miss in runoff

GRIFFIN NEAL
THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

Chauncey Mullins and Jessica Tran were named Mr. and Miss Ole Miss on Thursday night, with Mullins receiving 52.5 percent of the vote and Tran receiving 59.4 percent of the vote.

Newly minted Miss Ole Miss Tran, a senior biochemistry major from Hattiesburg and president of UM Active Minds, was nearly speechless after her win.

"I love Ole Miss so much, but what I love more is the people," Tran said. "Without the people, Ole Miss is just a school. I'm just so thankful to be here with them."

The first thing Tran plans to do is "get eight hours of sleep." But after that, she aims to build on her campaign platform of improving mental health resources on campus.

"My platform was increasing



PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON



PHOTO: MEGAN SUTTLES

LEFT: Jessica Tran (in red) celebrates with her friends and campaigners after winning Miss Ole Miss on Thursday. RIGHT: Chauncey Mullins celebrates after winning Mr. Ole Miss on Thursday night.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

ENOUGH.

The Daily Mississippian, like the University of Mississippi, has not always stood against hate.

We sometimes participated in upholding a vision of our campus and city that rested on outdated ideas about race and gender that some people in our community wish still existed. There are days when we didn't do the right thing.

But today is not one of them.

Today, we can look to those in our past who demonstrated the power student journalists have when they speak up for what is right.

In 1962, editor-in-chief Sidna Brower wrote an editorial urging the community to come together in the wake of the riots following James Meredith's integration, causing her to be formally censored by the Associated Student Body Senate. In 2008, our staff penned an editorial denouncing the men donned in white, black and red hoods who marched on our campus. In 2015, when the Associated Student Body prepared to vote to take down the Mississippi state flag flying high above the heart of campus, our staff spoke up in support of progress and respect. Today is no different.

The Daily Mississippian of today rejects our university's history of complicity and, instead, chooses to stand against hate.

That is why The Daily Mississippian staff is calling for the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning to rename the Meek School of Journalism and New Media and for the journalism school to entirely cut ties with former UM professor, assistant vice chancellor, donor and namesake of the school, Ed Meek.

His name and the division it has come to represent do not align with our values. This change is absolutely necessary to uphold everything we stand for — as journalists, as students, as individuals. Students should not have to attend a school whose name makes them feel discriminated against.

The 2018-19 editorial staff of The Daily Mississippian condemns the remarks made by Meek. We wholly denounce his tone and the sentiments he expressed. His post clearly demonstrated racist and sexist language and does not align with the values of our publication or those of the university we attend.

In his post, Meek said, "We all share in the responsibility to protect the values we hold dear." We do not, in fact, hold dear the same values Meek made clear in his post. The values he demonstrated are not those of The Daily Mississippian. They are not those of the School of Journalism. They are not those of Ole Miss.

As the University of Mississippi Creed says, "The University of Mississippi is a community of learning dedicated to nurturing excellence in intellectual inquiry and personal character in an open and diverse environment." The Creed encourages, as we do, respect for the dignity of each person as well as fairness and civility.

We, as student journalists, must fight against bigotry and prejudice. It is our duty to stand up to those who seek to further divide us or discriminate against our fellow students. We must uphold the value of the education we receive here from the University of Mississippi, and we must uphold the integrity of the practice of journalism.

It is time to stop ostracizing those who may not look or act like us. It is time to stand up for what we know to be right. It is time to move past the history that continues to plague our campus.

There is no better time than now.

Our community's culture has perpetuated and reinforced antiquated stereotypes about our university for too long. It is time for the slurs, the derision, the hatred to end.

We do not, in fact, hold dear the same values Meek made clear in his post. The values he demonstrated are not those of The Daily Mississippian. They are not those of the School of Journalism. They are not those of Ole Miss."

Meek devalued the integrity of those two black students for the color and visibility of their skin. In response, we need to embrace, welcome and celebrate the diversity of our university's community.

Today, we believe this staff editorial solidifies our place on the right side of history — a history that is so painfully marred by mistakes we dare not repeat.

History may repeat itself — but not here. Enough.

Signed by The Daily Mississippian staff listed on the left side of this page

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be e-mailed to dmletters@olemiss.edu.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for clarity, space or libel. Third-party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.

Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.



MISSISSIPPI
press
ASSOCIATION

MEMBER NEWSPAPER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

‘I don’t need your apology’

My Saturday night started off the same way it would for most of my peers. I spent time calculating my ensemble, making sure that my makeup and hair would compliment the look, and figuring out plans to ensure that I would hold true to the idea that we never lose a party.

Personally, this was time to catch up on the game day. As an independent student, the luxury of attending the Grove or a game is rarely afforded to me, as I am often consumed with work to ensure that I have the necessary stability to obtain the degree that I work diligently for.

Nevertheless, the night went exactly as planned. My friends and I, oblivious to most of the commotion that occurred that night, had the times of our lives. We laughed, sang off-key to several of our favorite songs, and chatted with a plethora of powder-blue donning strangers all in the name of being a Rebel.

We thought that this would be the end of our night. Another fun yet typical game day night.

We were wrong.

The uptick in notifications is what got my attention. People from multiple social media outlets notified me about a post made by Ed Meek, one of the school’s most noteworthy affiliates. In truth, I initially thought that it was all a factitious Facebook thing, but that was not the case.

Ed Meek’s post was not meant for me nor my good friend Kiyona Crawford. We weren’t the ones fighting Alabama fans at a tent in the Grove, we weren’t harassing our LGBTQIA+ counterparts, nor were we the ones fighting in front of bars around the Square. However, somehow for Meek, the blame for the university’s enrollment decline and city’s decline in property value was easier to associate with two women of color as opposed to the particular demographic

that has been at the forefront of the school’s most controversial moments by far.

The post reeks of racist ideology as well as misogyny and is not representative of who either of us are. We work tirelessly for the means to have a taste of the college experience many take for granted. Personally, I have worked hard to embrace my voluptuousness. A term that, freshman year, I wouldn’t have been able to confidently use. I have worked hard to accept my rich, melanated skin tone. I have pushed through the injustices brought to me because of being a woman. All of which I have no control over.

As for Ed Meek: one should never use the physical appearance of a person as a measurement of their morality. As you documented in your civil rights book, “Riot: Witness to Anger and Change,” suits were worn by both the affirming and opposing side during the university’s integration process.

I don’t need your apology. In fact I don’t need anything from the reciprocal guilt you feel after being called out for what you are. The two things that automatically put me at a disadvantage in our society, you’ll never completely understand.

In closing, I relinquish being oversexualized, scapegoated and invalidated by anyone. I deserve to feel secure in my skin on this campus and in this town just as my counterparts do and I will continue to carry on as such.

Hotty Toddy,
Mahoghany Jordan

Mahoghany Jordan is a senior general studies major from Memphis.

Alumni journalists respond to Meek’s comments

Speak truth to power.

It’s the principal lesson I learned during my time at the university, a lesson many student journalists learn during their time here and not necessarily in the classroom. For decades, student journalists on this campus have regularly reported on race relations, exposing inequality, bigotry and the gradual transformation of a university once proudly branded by Confederate symbolism.

We urged students to stop rioting over James Meredith’s enrollment in 1962. We shed the first light on why John Hawkins, the university’s first black cheerleader, refused to wave the Confederate flag at football games. We covered the life and death of Colonel Reb and why you can’t take a stick in Vaught-Hemingway. We documented Klansmen and white supremacists who never failed to make their way to Oxford whenever the university’s “traditions” were at risk of disappearing. And we had a front-row seat when Barack Obama, the nation’s first African-American presidential candidate, debated John McCain at the Ford Center in 2008.

Today’s student journalists are faced with the same challenge of spotlighting issues of injustice on campus. Sadly, they’ve now got to cover it in their own backyard.

The persistence of student journalism during the university’s ugliest years is something unique to Ole Miss, a place always facing an uphill battle when it comes to overcoming negative perception. It is something in which the journalism school should take tremendous pride.

Ed Meek’s actions should not only be condemned—they should hold consequences. Students and alumni of the J-school deserve better than to be associated with someone insinuating the presence of young black women on the Square at 2 a.m. is indicative of a crime problem in Oxford.

There is no excuse. There is no spin opportunity. And there is no reason that man’s name should be on a building that represents the opposite of Meek’s racist, misogynistic views.

Alex McDaniel
The Daily Mississippian Editor-in-Chief, 2009-10
Yearbook Editor-in-Chief, 2010-11

It is a cruel and amusing non-mystery, the resentment some in Oxford like Ed Meek feel at black women existing in spaces typically occupied by white people. (This is not to suggest that black boys get significantly more room, of course, to be young and human, but there is undeniable privilege in being a football player—at least, one who doesn’t kneel as the Star-Spangled Banner plays.)

It would be a tiresome and ultimately fruitless activity to dissect Meek’s now-deleted Facebook status as if it communicated intelligent thought. It was not about his opinion of Oxford; it was about his feelings about black people. Suggesting that the police should be conscious of the appearance of two gorgeous young black women whose dresses embrace both their never-not-politicized bodies and the hard-won triumph of self-expression is the rambling of a bigot who clearly cannot be bothered with self-awareness and who does not deserve his name on the School of Journalism any more than Ross Barnett deserves his name on the Reservoir in Rankin County.

Sierra Mannie, Class of 2016
The Daily Mississippian opinion editor 2014-15



Ed Meek’s Facebook post and subsequent ‘apology’ is a slap in the face to anyone who has or is working towards a degree from UM’s journalism school. The values he has expressed are highly offensive and unacceptable, not to mention, totally out of line with the lessons taught at the school bearing his name.”

-McKenna Wierman, Class of 2017
The Daily Mississippian Lifestyles Editor 2015-2017

I challenge us to understand that shares on Facebook can be detrimental to people. I challenge us to love and enjoy Oxford. Most of all, I challenge us all to understand that who we are has influence. We can either use that power to merge and foster community, or we can use those tools as weapons. I pray we all choose the former.”

-Terrence Johnson, Class of 2018



As journalists, or members of media organizations, we are taught to remain objective and fair in our reporting. It’s important in the way we tell stories so that our audiences trust us. This is increasingly difficult when you watch disturbing acts, like racism, sexism and bias, transpire that infiltrate our integrity. We must hold those folks accountable.”

-Natalie Moore, Class of 2014
The Daily Mississippian Design Editor 2013-14

FORUM

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Thursday in which she wrote that Meek's post "reeks of racist ideology as well as misogyny" and rejected Meek's apology, called Meek's comments hurtful and disheartening. She spoke of defending Ole Miss' image many times.

"Meek has put a crack in my foundation," Jordan said. "Am I really accepted? Am I protected? I can't give you a wholehearted 'yes' anymore. I really can't, and that's sad to say."

Crawford thanked the audience for support and said being pictured in the post was infuriating and embarrassing.

"When I first saw the post, I was confused as to why our pictures were being shown — and only our two pictures," Crawford said. "And then I critiqued his statement. He said something about the drop in enrollment rate, and he said something about the property values decreasing. And I'm sitting here like ... is he trying to imply that we're prostitutes? Like what is he trying to imply?"

After Crawford thanked the audience, the room erupted with applause as the audience rose for

Meek School of Journalism and New Media, before the forum opened up to the public.

During the last few minutes of the student portion, Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter quietly entered the room, donning a pinstripe suit and a tie emblazoned with piano keys.

After a short introduction from Vitter and Provost Noel Wilkin, more than 20 audience members voiced their thoughts and concerns for over 1 1/2 hours.

By the start of the second session, Nutt Auditorium was near capacity. All but a few seats were taken by students, faculty and community members, with dozens more people standing along the walls and by the two rear entrances.

Dean of the Meek School Will Norton, who spoke on behalf of the school in a video statement released Thursday afternoon, sat near the front of the auditorium throughout both sessions. He did not speak to the crowd during either forum.

"We have heard the calls for the Meek name to be removed from our building," Norton said in Thursday's video statement. "We have heard the comments that suggest that that response would be too harsh. We are

President Elam Miller arrived and took a seat three rows from the stage.

Andrea Hightower, a junior journalism major, has lived in Oxford for 11 years. She began the public's commentary by reading a statement.

"I know the post he made was not out of malice," Hightower said. "He actually inspired me to become the journalist that I want to be. He taught me to always come forth with the real issues and inspired me to be courageous, so this is me being courageous."

She went on to talk about bias and racism.

"By not recognizing the racist remarks by Mr. Meek, we belittle our staff, our faculty and students," Hightower said. "And, surely, that is not why we want to be on the cover of the newspaper, but because we believe in the same piece of paper that gives us the rights as journalists to report what we want — gives the same people in this room the right to unalienable rights."

Some people reminded the audience that this is not the first time Meek has caused controversy on campus, referring specifically to Meek's criticism of last year's Student Activities Association Welcome Back Concert, which featured rapper Wiz Khalifa.

Elly Quinton, a senior IMC major, addressed some students' worries that the issue with Meek will be discussed for a while, without any real change occurring.

"Something that has been pointed out to me is that we, as students, have power here and that if we really want to see a change, if we really want to see action, if we really want something to get done about this, that we have to continue to talk about it," Quinton said. "We have to continue to press our administration to make those changes that we want to see, and we just can't let this issue die."

Senior public policy leadership student Raven Francomano, who started a Change.org petition calling for Meek's name to be removed from the School of Journalism and New Media, said that, despite not being a member of Meek's namesake school, she was still concerned about his post.

"As long as we keep supporting the people who have the hate in



PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

Sophomore Seyna Clark directly addresses Chancellor Vitter during the open forum on Thursday night at Nutt Auditorium

their heart to keep contributing, we will not have sustainable change," Francomano said.

Francomano's petition, which argued that Meek's actions "contributed to the notion that racism is alive and well at the University of Mississippi," went up on Wednesday evening and had garnered more than 2,250 signatures by Thursday night.

Seyna Clark, a sophomore journalism major, spoke during both the first, student-only session and the second session.

"It's a lot of new faces, and Vitter wasn't here earlier. So now, I'm talking to you," Clark said, turning to face Vitter in the crowd.

"When I first saw the post on Facebook, I became uncomfortable because I didn't read that there's a crime problem in Oxford — or that there was a crime problem in the Grove or at the Square — but that there's a black problem," Clark said of Meek's Facebook post.

Clark spoke for 13 minutes, during which she condemned Confederate flags and Colonel Reb in the Grove as well as the use of the names "Rebels" and "Ole Miss" and called university administration to action.

"I need you to go to sleep

tonight and think about this — because this is serious, and I need to wake up in the morning and not see the statue no more," Clark said to Vitter as the audience gave a standing ovation.

Shortly after that, Alexandria White, assistant director of the Center of Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement, approached the front of the room and took the microphone from Clark to open the floor to other people.

White then handed the microphone to Beth Kruse, a doctoral student in the history department, who suggested that the Meek School be renamed to honor Paul Guilhard, a French journalist who was murdered while covering the university's integration in 1962.

"We love this university, and we always want to see it get better," Vitter said during a brief statement at the end of the forum, after assuring the audience that administration "will be following up" to respond to concerns voiced by students.

Students and individuals who weren't able to voice their thoughts during the forum were encouraged to submit them by emailing mythoughts@olemiss.edu.



PHOTO: ALEXIS T. RHODEN

The Meek School of Journalism and New Media held a town hall on Thursday night to allow the university community to voice their opinions regarding Ed Meek's Facebook post. Meek has received harsh criticism.

a standing ovation.

From 6:30-7:30 p.m., Meek School students were allowed to voice concerns among themselves during a conversation moderated by Graham Bodie, a listening expert and integrated marketing communications professor at the

continuing to listen and continue to respond. We expect to make a recommendation to Chancellor Vitter in the very near future."

Between sessions, while the runoff winners of Mr. and Miss Ole Miss were announced at the Lyceum, Associated Student Body

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RUNOFF

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mental health resources on campus — not just increasing them but making them better quality and more accessible to all students,” Tran said.

Mullins, a senior public policy leadership and integrated marketing communications double major from Tupelo, said this election was not only for everyone but was for transfer students, in particular.

“I knew from the moment I stepped on this campus (that) I wanted to make it a better place for transfer students,” Mullins said.

Mullins added that as part of his platform, he “want(s) a transfer seat on (Associated Student Body) Senate” in an effort to be more inclusive.

ASB Attorney General Austin Fiala said he believes the elections were a success.

“At 7:35 on election night, I can say that we’re very happy (about) the low number of violations,” Fiala said. “We’re happy with candidate feedback, and we are very happy with the general spirit of camaraderie and upholding the Creed that the candidates exhibited.”

After nearly 2 1/2 weeks of campaigning, the Office of the ASB Attorney General reviewed only three campaign



violations. Two were dismissed by the Elections Review Board, and one candidate was administered a small fine.

For fall personality elections, Fiala’s office sought to focus on “smaller, more salient” details of the elections code. The office re-examined details in the code that, in years past, haven’t been followed.

“(The rules weren’t followed) because they aren’t viewed as important, but because we did them this year,

it closed off a lot of areas for concern,” Fiala said.

In total, 3,990 votes were cast in the runoff election, down 1,119 votes from the first election on Tuesday. Fiala remarked that though these polling numbers were lower than those of the personality elections last fall, far more students voted in this election than did in the spring ASB election.

“This is something we’re very happy about,” Fiala said. “Considering the fact that there were so many candidates



PHOTOS: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

LEFT: Jessica Tran (in red) celebrates with her friends and campaigners after winning Miss Ole Miss on Thursday. She won the runoff election against Jessi Lockett with 59.36 percent of the vote. RIGHT: Chauncey Mullins celebrates after winning Mr. Ole Miss on Thursday night. He defeated Mikhail Love with 52.51 percent of the vote.

for so many positions, we were very happy that enough students were involved and

knowledgeable about the campaign to feel passionately enough to vote.”



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Students with children receive limited help from university

BRIANA FLOREZ
THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

The University of Mississippi does not provide an on-campus daycare specifically meant to serve students with children during the time they spend in class.

According to a 2013 report from the Institute of Women's Policy Research, almost four million college students — roughly 25 percent of all undergraduate students — have dependents. The report also showed a decline in the availability of on-campus childcare. Only 55 percent of public four-year institutions and 47 percent of community colleges said they provide a childcare center on campus.

For senior accountancy major Brenna Nowell, a student-parent at the university, juggling school and being a mother can be challenging at times. However, Nowell said doing so is manageable with her support system, and she knows she is doing the best for her 2-year-old daughter, Presley, by attending Ole Miss.

"The hardest part is splitting my time between being a mother and student," Nowell said. "I try to do as much of my homework as I can after she goes to bed at night, but going to class and doing some homework in the day is unavoidable. Although I know, in the long run, I'm doing what is best for her by getting a degree, it's still hard, day-to-day."

A typical day for Nowell begins with being awakened around 7 a.m. by either her alarm or Presley — whichever comes first. Nowell goes to school four days a week — two days in Oxford and two days in Desoto — while Presley stays with one of her grandmothers.

After school, Nowell said she goes home, plays with her daughter, eats dinner, runs errands or cleans, bathes Presley and puts her to sleep. Once Presley is in bed, Nowell stays up doing homework until 1 or 2 a.m., and the next day, she does it all over again.

Willie Price Lab School, the preschool on campus, is open to all families in the LOU community, though children have to be three or four years old to attend. Priority for



PHOTO COURTESY: BRENNA NOWELL

Brenna and Presley Kate Nowell.

enrollment is given to families affiliated with the university, and they receive a \$100 discount, according to Alyce Krouse, the assistant director of Willie Price.

Though the Willie Price Lab School is on campus, Ole Miss does not have an on-campus daycare specifically for children of students, like some other universities have. Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Leslie Banahan said introducing an on-campus daycare has been discussed many times.

"That has been an issue that has been discussed for the last 20 years, and the university has done a lot of surveys to see what the interest is, if the need and demand is there and if it is financially feasible," Banahan said.

Currently, the university has a parental leave policy in place for graduate students.

The policy states that graduate students are eligible for six weeks of leave immediately following the birth or adoption of a child. The policy's purpose is to allow graduate students to keep their full-time status and to create a smooth path for them as they return to classwork or teaching.

Director of the Office of College Programs Laura Antonow said it has been a goal of hers to find out how many students at the university have dependents, yet this goal has not been accomplished.

"I had hoped to track down this information as part of a childcare fellowship in which I am currently involved, but there is no comprehensive count that I've been able to track down," Antonow said. "We're going to initiate a survey to students to try to collect that information to better understand how many

student-parents possible expanded campus-based childcare services might serve."

Banahan said that though there are no resources specifically for student-parents, all students — regardless of whether they have a child or not — have access to resources such as the health center, career center, counseling center, campus recreation, the library, etc.

Nowell said the university and the Patterson School of Accountancy have been supportive of her situation.

"When I got pregnant, my freshman-year advisor and accounting advisor both worked with me to make a plan for my next year of education. The Office of Financial Aid, my professors and my current advisor have all been very helpful, as well," Nowell said. "The faculty and staff of Ole Miss want their student(s) to

succeed and will usually offer advice and help, if you just ask them for it."

She recalled one time during the spring semester after her daughter was born in which she was getting overwhelmed and looking to go to community college because she thought that it would be less time-consuming and have an easier course load. She didn't want to miss one of her daughter's "firsts," those things that no parents want to miss. But Nowell said her mother reminded her how blessed she was to attend Ole Miss, and she has not looked back since.

It is not unheard of for student-parents to take their child with them to class when they cannot find a sitter. There is no university policy that forbids students from bringing their children with them to class if they must, but Banahan said that discretion would be up to the faculty member directing the class.

"I don't know of any policy that forbids bringing a child to class. That would be up to the faculty member and would depend on how old the child is and if (the child is) a disruption," Banahan said. "I know there (have) been situations in the past where last-minute, a babysitter cancels and a (child) will sit in the back and color, play on their iPad — that sort of thing. But I think that has to be worked out between the student and faculty member."

Nowell said if she could talk to a student going through a situation similar to hers, she would tell them becoming a mother while being a student has ended up being the best thing that has ever happened to her. She said that with a strong support system, juggling those two major responsibilities is not impossible.

"You're going to need Jesus, your people, caffeine and the thought of your child to make it through long days, but you can do it," Nowell said. "Becoming a mother while in college gave me purpose and motivation to work hard so that I can provide for Presley and, one day, teach her the value of a good education so (that) she'll want to come to Ole Miss to better herself, too."

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How to vote: Mississippi’s upcoming midterms

DANIEL PAYNE
THEDMFEATURES@GMAIL.COM

The midterm elections are less than two months away, and it’s time to plan to vote in November.

The Nov. 6 election will usher in new legislators to the United States Senate and House of Representatives. All 435 seats in the House of Representatives and one-third of those in the Senate will be up for election.

In Mississippi, both Senate seats are up for grabs. U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith will try to defend her seat from challengers Chris McDaniel, Mike Espy and Tobey Bartee, while incumbent U.S. Senator Roger Wicker will face State Senator David Baria, Shawn O’Hara and Danny Bedwell. The race for Mississippi’s

First Congressional District will include incumbent Trent Kelly, Randy Wadkins and Tracella Lou O’Hara Hill. The ballot will also include positions on Courts of Appeals.

Before voting in these races, you must register to vote.

Completing your registration will depend on the location of your legal residence. As a college student, you may either vote in your home state or the state you reside in during the semester, but you may not be registered in more than one state.

Registering to vote in Mississippi is simple.

To be eligible to vote in Mississippi, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years old by or on election day and have been a legal resident for at least 30 days. If you have been convicted of certain crimes

or adjudicated as mentally incompetent, you are not eligible to vote in Mississippi.

If you are eligible to vote in Mississippi and have not already registered, you must complete a voter registration form before you vote. Along with the form, you need to prove your identity or residency. You may do this with any valid driver’s license or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows your

name and address in Lafayette County.

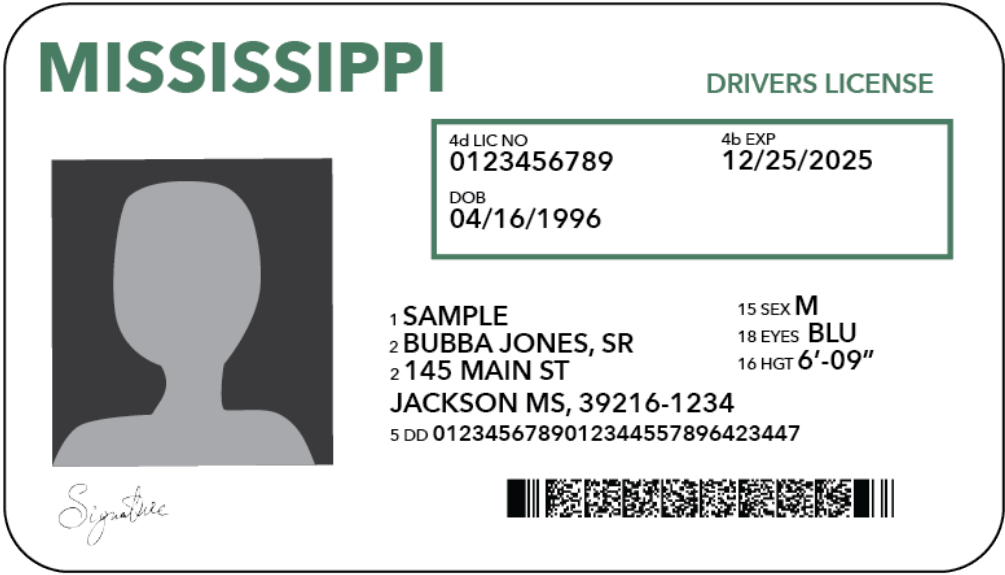
You may return the completed form either by mail or in person to the circuit clerk’s office, which is located in the courthouse in the middle of the Square. The registration form and proof of residency must be submitted by Oct. 8 to vote in the midterms.

Once those forms are completed and submitted, you will be ready to vote on Nov. 6 as long as you have a valid

photo ID. You can find your polling place here.

If your legal residence is in another state, you may register for an absentee ballot. The regulations and requirements vary by state, but most states require voters to mail in a form before the election. You can find more information and print your absentee ballot at [Vote.org](#).

No matter where you intend to vote, plan to register now so your voice can be heard in November.



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ACROSS

1 Wedges together

7 Craze

10 At the drop of ____

14 Of flight

15 One ____ time

16 Body of an organism

17 Yellowish brown pigment

18 ____ Abner

19 "The Godfather" Oscar nominee

20 Fundamental right

23 Caper

26 Go bad

27 Gandhi's land

28 High time

29 At the present time

30 Giant Mel

31 Stronghold of a castle

33 CD earnings

34 Palm Pilot, e.g.

37 Opposite of WSW

38 Exploit

39 Draw

40 Yank's foe

41 Draft org.

42 Free

43 Black magic

45 Neither's partner

46 Dusk, to Donne

47 Fashion lines

48 Author of fables

51 Competitor of Tide and Cheer

52 Horne and Olin

53 Not assigned to a class

56 Architect Mies van der ____

57 Like Phoenix in summer

58 Title for a woman

62 Material charity

63 Single unit

64 Old Testament book

65 Vietnam neighbor

66 Hi-____ monitor

67 Sequence

DOWN

1 ____ in Charlie

2 Maui memento

3 All the Things You ____

4 Affectedly dainty

5 Lose one's cool

6 Pole, for one

7 Uncultivated

8 Leaning

9 Surrealist Salvador

10 Climb

11 Accumulate

12 Stradivari's teacher

13 Country singer Tucker

21 Pressed

22 Acrid taste

23 Peaks of Peru

24 People and places, e.g.

25 Musical sounds

29 Polite turndown

30 Pungent bulb

32 Moon of Jupiter

33 In and of ____

34 Primp

35 Skin layer

36 Vast chasm

44 Cheese

45 Surprisingly

46 In groups

48 Otic

49 ____ Gay

50 Jerk

51 Together

52 Flat contract

54 Restaurateur Toots

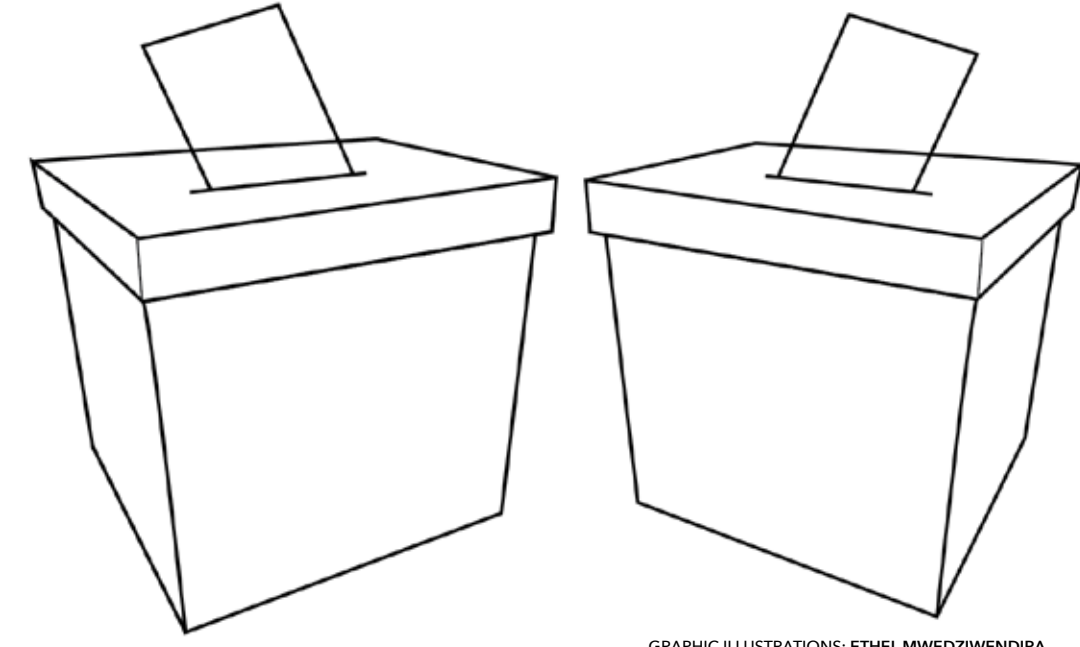
55 Little devils

59 Clay today

60 Tussaud's title: Abbr.

61 Curvy letter

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GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS: ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA

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		5				1		7
				1	3	8		
	3	1						
6				7				2
				8		4		
1				3				9
						6	5	
		9	1	5				
8		4				3		

HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

INTERMEDIATE

1	6	3	7	2	9	4	5	8
4	7	2	8	5	1	9	6	3
8	5	6	6	4	3	7	1	2
9	9	4	2	3	5	8	7	1
3	1	7	4	9	8	2	6	5
2	8	5	1	7	6	3	4	9
9	2	6	5	8	4	1	3	7
5	4	8	1	3	7	9	2	6
7	3	1	9	6	2	5	8	4



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Rebels head to Gainesville to face powerhouse Florida

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The Ole Miss volleyball team begins SEC play today with a match versus No. 11 Florida in Gainesville.

After going on an eight-match winning streak earlier in the season, the Rebels lost to Memphis last week, before suffering two more losses in the Rice Adidas Invitational III this past weekend.

The Rebels were plagued by miscues during the tournament, especially in their 1-3 loss to Austin Peay in which they committed 17 attack errors, 10 service errors, seven block errors and five ball-handling errors. These mistakes need to be cleaned up if the Rebels want any shot at taking down the top team in the SEC.

“Last week was a tough week for our team,” head coach Steven McRoberts said. “I am confident that we will continue to improve and play better as the conference season goes on.”

This weekend marked the first time this season that the Rebels dropped more than one match in a single weekend. After building momentum and confidence with tough nonconference wins, they must now work to put this tough stretch behind them and move on to their SEC schedule.

The Gators, the favorites to win the SEC this year, are 9-3 this season and have won five matches in a row. During this streak they have not allowed a single match to go to five sets, and they are looking polished and confident as they begin their conference schedule.

Having secured a key win early in the season versus No. 2 Nebraska and managing close losses versus No. 3 Texas and No. 7 Southern California, Florida is poised for another deep run in the NCAA Tournament, after losing in the championship game last year to Nebraska.

The Rebels enter the match hungry for the upset that has been a goal for them in years past. Last year the team lost

0-3 in its only match versus the Gators. In fact, Ole Miss picked up only two sets in its past seven matchups with Florida. This year’s team hopes to end that streak and pick up a signature win that could help secure them a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

“We get the opportunity to challenge the top program in the SEC in our conference opener, and our players should be excited about that,” McRoberts said.

Playing on their home court, the Gators will definitely have the advantage, as they posted an impressive 18-1 home record last year, with their only loss coming at the hands of perennial powerhouse Kentucky.

Ole Miss was 3-6 on the road in conference play last year but did manage to come up with wins at South Carolina and at Texas A&M.

“I just want us to keep getting better, and I want us to push this year to make it to the NCAA Tournament,” McRoberts said. “That’s the biggest goal for our program.”



FILE PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Caitlin Wernentin prepares to spike the ball during the game versus Ohio State earlier this season.

Soccer on two-game skid after losing to Tennessee

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The Ole Miss Rebels had their SEC home opener versus the Tennessee Volunteers on Thursday night. Unfortunately, Ole Miss was unable to come away with a victory, losing 2-0.

Tennessee put the Rebels under a lot of pressure in the opening half. After their first shot, a near-miss, the Rebels struggled to maintain possession and create chances. Tennessee dominated the opening half, and the Rebels never really got going.



PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

CeCe Kizer high-fives her teammates before last Sunday's game versus Memphis.

Tennessee’s first goal came from a follow-up shot in the 22nd minute, after senior goalkeeper Marnie Merritt saved the initial effort. Ole Miss really struggled to keep the ball, consistently losing possession during its attempts to push the ball forward.

The Rebels only had two clear-cut chances in the half. The first was a free kick by freshman Haleigh Stackpole that forced the Vols’ keeper to make a tremendous save. The second shot came as time expired, when senior CeCe Kizer played a through ball to redshirt freshman Sydney Michalak, who shot it right at the Volunteer goalkeeper.

Merritt was busy in the first half, making save after save to keep the Rebels in the game. The Volunteers had 12 total shots in the half, outshooting the Rebels by 10.

Following halftime, Ole Miss head coach Matt Mott made some tactical changes to the offense, which came in the form of keeping Kizer higher up the pitch in the second half.

“I stayed a little bit higher in the second half because we weren’t creating enough and didn’t have enough numbers going forward, so I tried my best to stay in the box more,” Kizer said.

Merritt came up with her fifth and sixth saves of the game in quick succession, only

10 minutes into the second half. She had to fully extend for the first shot, which was heading into the upper corner of the goal, before quickly getting down for the second shot, a near-post effort off the rebound.

The defense did a good job of containing two of the best forwards in the SEC, holding Tennessee to eight shots on target.

“They’ve got speed, and they’re big. So we just said, ‘We’ve got to drop early and stay with them,’” Merritt said.

Kizer created another opportunity for Ole Miss off the bounce of a free kick by feeding junior Gabby Little a shot, but the shot went straight to the keeper, who easily corralled it. Sophomore Channing Foster had an excellent one-on-one shot saved with 20 minutes left in the game. The Rebel offense looked much better in the second half, putting up 11 shots and forcing the Vols’ keeper to make four saves.

After an incredibly hot start to the season, Ole Miss has struggled offensively, only scoring once in its last three games. The loss versus Tennessee marks the first time this season the Rebels have lost back-to-back games.

“We’re a little snakebit right now, but we’ll come out on the other side of it for sure,” Mott said.

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COLUMN

Ole Miss needs to make statement against Kent State

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After the absolute shellacking delivered by the Crimson Tide last weekend (62-7 in our home stadium, in case you forgot), Ole Miss needs to make a major statement against Kent State on Saturday.

Right now, just about everything about this team is under fire. There were definitely questions after the defense gave up more points to an FCS school than any SEC team ever had. There were certainly concerns at halftime when the Rebels were losing to Southern Illinois. But no matter what, Rebel fans thought they could count on this offense. After the nightmarish performance last week, there is absolutely nothing sure about Ole Miss Football.

Jordan Ta'amu looked scared, "Scotty Toddy" Phillips was absent and the defense looked more hopeless than ever before. It didn't look like Matt Luke had any sort of control over his team by the second quarter. At the beginning of the season, no Rebel fan would have guessed how much would be riding on a matchup with a team that opened its season with a loss to Illinois.

A lot has to change in the upcoming game — in a big way — to avoid major consequences for the Ole Miss program. The recruiting class for next season currently sits at No. 17 nationally, which is far higher than anyone would have expected for the first



FILE PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Ole Miss wide receiver A.J. Brown gets tackled by a Southern Illinois defender earlier this season.

season following the end of our bowl ban. If a statement isn't made on Saturday morning, recruiting could take a major hit, possibly even including some decommitments.

The award for one on thinnest ice going into the Kent State game has to go to defensive coordinator Wesley McGriff, who has seen his guys give up 130 points in just three

games. McGriff is a major reason that this game needs to be more than just a win. If we get another Southern Illinois result out of this game, McGriff will almost certainly not have a job by the end of the season.

Above all else, the respect of the SEC is on the line here. No SEC team should lose a game 62-7, no matter who it's against. If we don't

see a weekend blowout of Kent State, the Rebels will not have the confidence to make it a close game in Death Valley the following weekend. Another crushing loss in that game would set the tone for an absolutely dismal SEC campaign for the remainder of the season, which is the last thing the Rebels need. Another 6-6 season finish and we could

be looking at Mizzou status as far as SEC respect goes.

Saturday's game, when the Golden Flashes come into town, will mark the third-straight week that Rebel fans will be watching their team at the Vaught. The game will be the final outing of this homestand before the game at No. 6 LSU next Saturday.

FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

and points allowed. According to Sports Reference, the last game in which Ole Miss held a team to less than 21 points was the fourth game of the 2016 season versus the Georgia

Bulldogs.

The time period since then covers 23 games and includes opponents such as Louisiana-Lafayette, UT-Martin, South Alabama and Southern Illinois.

It seems that the skill level of the opponent has had little effect on the performance of Ole Miss' defense. Top programs have accumulated points and

yards, and smaller-division schools have done the same. The only difference in the outcomes of the games is that the Rebel offense can outscore the smaller schools. The current defensive staff has never held a team to under 21 points. The young core of Ole Miss defenders could gain a huge bump in confidence if they show

out against Kent State.

A key member of the Rebel offense is set to make his season debut Saturday. After contracting mono, running back Eric Swinney missed the first three weeks of the season. He slots in on the depth chart just under breakout runner Phillips, and his presence creates much-needed depth at the position.

After a humbling defeat, the Ole Miss Rebels have a perfect opportunity to regain the confidence that the first two wins of the season gave them. Matchups against LSU, Auburn and several other SEC teams await. Recording an abundance of yards and points against a smaller program may be just what the doctor ordered.



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Ole Miss aims for redemption after Alabama debacle

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THEDMSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

The Ole Miss football team sits at 2-1 after three weeks. With all of the turmoil and issues that athletic director Ross Bjork and head coach Matt Luke have had to manage, 2-1 is a welcome sight. However, losing 62-7 is never easy to move on from. Kent State, which is only a week removed from a 63-10 lashing by Penn State, gives the Rebels a chance to sweep the embarrassing home defeat by Alabama under the rug.

After the game started with a bang from the Rebel offense, the majority of the game versus Alabama was but a whimper. Jordan Ta'amu connected with D.K. Metcalf to open the game with a 75-yard touchdown play. Ta'amu would only complete six more passes the whole game. The trio of Metcalf, A.J. Brown and DaMarkus Lodge combined for a stat line of seven catches, one touchdown and 133 yards that — versus a different team — would be a normal game for any one of them. Scottie Phillips took a step back, only rushing for 44 yards. All parties involved with the offense are looking to clear the slate.

The Golden Flashes are



PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Running back Scottie Phillips tries to escape Alabama defense last Saturday.

allowing 468.7 yards per game on defense this season. The number of passing and rushing yards allowed per game is pretty evenly split, with Kent State allowing 255 yards through the air and 213.7 on the ground. The team's defense has caused six turnovers, with three

interceptions and three fumble recoveries.

The Kent State defense should allow Ole Miss to return this Saturday to the form it displayed versus Southern Illinois, as Penn State's balanced offense is similar to what the Flashes will face

against the Rebels. The Nittany Lions gained 667 yards on the way to scoring 63 points versus the Golden Flashes. Penn State was able to rack up 370 passing yards on just 14 completions, so look for the NWO to be targeted heavily.

All attention on the Ole

Miss program, both nationally and locally, has shifted from its prolific offense to its porous defense. Defensive coordinator Wesley McGriff is constantly asked what adjustments need to be made or what problems have led to the astronomical yards

SEE **FOOTBALL** PAGE 11

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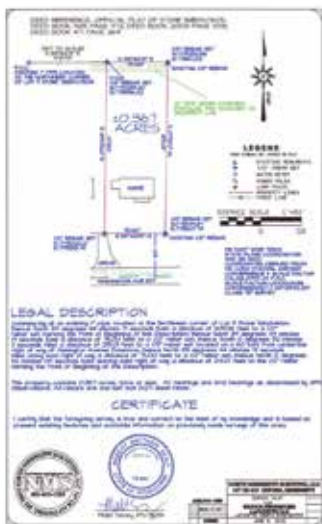
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